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## ABSTRACT

This questionnaire is designed to assess the opinions of students and teachers of educational institutions and citizens about energy and the environment. It is composed of 85 energy and environment oriented statements about which the examinee gives an opinion. Choices provided on the answer sheet given are strongly agree, mildly agree, not sure or don't know, mildly disagree, and strongly disagree. Reproduction of the exam is allowed without permission, though credit is requested. A respondent information sheet is also included. (Author/MA)

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ENERGY-ENVIRONMENT OPINIONNAIRE

Prepared

by

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MESSAGE TO THE USER

This opinionnaire has been designed to assess the opinions of students and teachers of educational institutions and citizens about energy and the environment.

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Summaries of results and comments on questions are welcomed.

Jonathan Wert  
July 1975

## ENERGY-ENVIRONMENT OPINIONNAIRE

Please do not write on the opinionnaire. Circle the letter on the answer sheet which corresponds to your opinion on the scale.

1. Nuclear breeder reactors should be developed because they would be cost effective and safe.
2. Nuclear power plants should be placed underground.
3. The government should develop floating nuclear power plants at sea.
4. Automobiles should be banned from certain streets in the largest cities during some periods of the day.
5. Global environmental standards must be established and followed if man is to survive.
6. Basic changes in life styles will be necessary in order to offset the energy crisis and environmental problems.
7. Electricity will probably never be cheaper than it is today.
8. Regional urban waste management systems should become a major responsibility of the Federal government.
9. It will eventually be necessary to have gasoline rationing to conserve fuel.
10. There should be a tax on bottles, newspapers, and automobiles as an incentive to recycle.
11. Vehicles and household appliances should be designed to allow for nearly total reclamation.
12. The United States needs a cohesive land-use policy.
13. The United States needs a cohesive energy policy.
14. Taxes should be used as an antipollution strategy for air and water pollution.
15. Effective energy conservation programs will result in increased unit costs and slow down economic growth.
16. Zero population growth would result in improvements to the quality of life.
17. Population size must be limited.
18. The population must be redistributed.
19. A real problem in establishing environmental standards lies in determining "how much" of any pollutant is "too much."

20. Citizens will eventually have to place more value on government controls if they are to live in a healthy environment.
21. Citizens have the responsibility of analyzing and lessening the magnitude and number of environmental problems.
22. A major concern of pollution control technologists in the United States is the degree to which the air, water, and land can assimilate poisons or wastes.
23. Most environmentalists are radicals and oppose balanced growth and development.
24. Most environmentalists are staunch preservationists.
25. Ecological principles and systems apply to man in the same ways they apply to other animals.
26. Ecosystems have a healthy carrying capacity for men as they do all other animals.
27. Stability and diversity are important factors of ecosystems.
28. Pollution control devices are essential for maintaining balanced ecosystems.
29. Any change man can bring to a natural system will be beneficial.
30. There is no such thing as a "free lunch," and everything we do affects everything else in positive or negative ways.
31. The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is very valuable legislation.
32. Higher consumption of energy is currently rewarded by lower prices per unit, thus hastening the end of fuels by a price structure and usage pattern that is against the natural energy conservation modes.
33. The agency, firm, or municipality which is best able to delay having to install effective pollution abatement devices will gain in the market.
34. Society really doesn't want to pay the cost of maintaining a quality environment.
35. The average citizen doesn't realize the extent to which he/she is dependent upon the proper functioning of natural or ecological systems for survival.
36. It is currently more profitable to pollute in the United States than to apply expensive pollution abatement technologies.
37. TVA is a leader in strip mine reclamation.
38. If pollutants are taxed at such a high rate to make it more costly to pollute than to abate, there will be a profit incentive to develop and apply pollution abatement technologies.
39. The cost of controlling pollution must, in most instances, be passed on to the consumer.

40. Technology assessment refers to determining the full impact of a new technology, including secondary and tertiary effects, before the technology is applied.
41. The world population doubles about every 35 years.
42. Short-range and self-centered thinking linked with a lack of commitment and responsibility are primary factors of human behavior contributing to environmental degradation.
43. The only time there is an energy crisis is when demand exceeds the supply.
44. There is no energy crisis; the whole problem was contrived by the oil companies.
45. Codes should be modified to encourage energy conservation in homes and other buildings.
46. The public has the right to demand all the electric power it wants and it is the utility's responsibility to see that electricity is available when the switch is turned on.
47. It is not reasonable or economically desirable to limit the growth and use of energy in the United States.
48. TVA must develop better methodologies for communicating effectively with the people to lessen the problems of misinformation about environmental effects resulting from society's demand for more and more electric power.
49. There should be no government limitations placed upon energy production.
50. It is extremely unlikely that there would be a disaster in the United States from air pollution or a nuclear accident.
51. The quality of the environment is primarily a social issue, not an economic one.
52. Most housewives would buy a less expensive polluting detergent over a more expensive nonpolluting one, even if they knew the difference.
53. Many forms of pollution are not perceived through the sense organs.
54. Environment is just a fad and most people couldn't care less about it.
55. American society is destroying the quality of life in its attempt to produce more and more goods.
56. Although used widely, Gross National Product (GNP) is a misleading index for measuring the quality of life because it only deals with economic activity.
57. If the less developed nations of the world accepted our capitalistic economic system, there would be fewer negative impacts on the environment.
58. As the density of human population increases in cities, there are greater amounts of pollution over a smaller geographic area which the environment is not always capable of assimilating.

59. If an industry avoids spending money on pollution control, it can compete much better with its rivals.
60. All industries must incur the costs of pollution abatement to prevent competitive disadvantages.
61. Stockholders of industry, the consumer, and the taxpayer have all benefited cost-wise from the lack of environmental control by not being charged the full costs of products and their impact on the environment.
62. It is not known to what extent environmental degradation has affected the health and life span of people.
63. To date, government and industry have done very little to measure the value which society places on a quality environment.
64. It is extremely difficult to place a dollar value on recreation uses, aesthetics, and psychological value of a clean river.
65. Some government agencies and many industries have tended to ignore the real environmental issues and blame them on the "radical environmentalists."
66. Many government employees are unproductive and overpaid.
67. As a whole, engineers and chemists make the best resource or environmental managers.
68. The government has made an excellent attempt to conserve energy.
69. Effective strip mine reclamation laws would increase the cost of coal and electricity and cause unemployment.
70. An adequate energy supply is as important to society as food, clothing, and shelter.
71. Most citizens participate in the energy-environment decision-making process very effectively through voting, participating in hearings, writing letters to members of Congress, the Senate, and newspapers.
72. Effective energy conservation programs will help alleviate shortages, extend supplies of resources, and result in improvements to the environment.
73. It is possible to attain zero energy growth by the year 2000 and still have an adequate supply of energy.
74. TVA has no role to play in the development of energy-efficient appliances or machinery.
75. The government should not encourage the implementation of any new energy technologies until they are sure there would be no unacceptable consequences on society.
76. Locating power plants in rural or undeveloped areas would facilitate economic growth and, therefore, more than likely be accepted locally even though the environment would be degraded.

77. Some significant environmental problems will have to go unsolved in the short run to provide an adequate supply of energy to meet current demand.
78. The public wants to have a voice in the energy development decision-making process, but this should be left to the experts.
79. TVA is unresponsive to changing social needs and must be forced by public pressure to implement programs which improve the overall quality of life and environment.
80. One of the reasons the price of electricity is soaring is that environmental costs are now being included in the price.
81. A significant amount of energy could be saved by improving existing building design and construction codes so that less lighting, heating, and cooling are necessary.
82. Solar heating is not technologically feasible at this time and offers little potential for the future.
83. There is a great need for providing citizens sound economic and environmental information so they can make decisions which save them money and conserve natural resources.
84. All electrical appliances should contain a label revealing the resources used in making them, their energy requirements, and operating costs, as well as the price of the appliance.
85. If industries and society as a whole uses more electricity, they should pay more and not be rewarded by cheaper rates for higher consumption.



ENERGY-ENVIRONMENT OPINIONNAIRE  
ANSWER SHEET

A	B	C	D	E
I Strongly Agree	I Mildly Agree	I'm Not Sure or I Don't Know	I Mildly Disagree	I Strongly Disagree

Please circle the letter below which corresponds  
to the statement and your opinion on the scale.

- |               |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| 1. A B C D E  | 29. A B C D E | 57. A B C D E |
| 2. A B C D E  | 30. A B C D E | 58. A B C D E |
| 3. A B C D E  | 31. A B C D E | 59. A B C D E |
| 4. A B C D E  | 32. A B C D E | 60. A B C D E |
| 5. A B C D E  | 33. A B C D E | 61. A B C D E |
| 6. A B C D E  | 34. A B C D E | 62. A B C D E |
| 7. A B C D E  | 35. A B C D E | 63. A B C D E |
| 8. A B C D E  | 36. A B C D E | 64. A B C D E |
| 9. A B C D E  | 37. A B C D E | 65. A B C D E |
| 10. A B C D E | 38. A B C D E | 66. A B C D E |
| 11. A B C D E | 39. A B C D E | 67. A B C D E |
| 12. A B C D E | 40. A B C D E | 68. A B C D E |
| 13. A B C D E | 41. A B C D E | 69. A B C D E |
| 14. A B C D E | 42. A B C D E | 70. A B C D E |
| 15. A B C D E | 43. A B C D E | 71. A B C D E |
| 16. A B C D E | 44. A B C D E | 72. A B C D E |
| 17. A B C D E | 45. A B C D E | 73. A B C D E |
| 18. A B C D E | 46. A B C D E | 74. A B C D E |
| 19. A B C D E | 47. A B C D E | 75. A B C D E |
| 20. A B C D E | 48. A B C D E | 76. A B C D E |
| 21. A B C D E | 49. A B C D E | 77. A B C D E |
| 22. A B C D E | 50. A B C D E | 78. A B C D E |
| 23. A B C D E | 51. A B C D E | 79. A B C D E |
| 24. A B C D E | 52. A B C D E | 80. A B C D E |
| 25. A B C D E | 53. A B C D E | 81. A B C D E |
| 26. A B C D E | 54. A B C D E | 82. A B C D E |
| 27. A B C D E | 55. A B C D E | 83. A B C D E |
| 28. A B C D E | 56. A B C D E | 84. A B C D E |
|               |               | 85. A B C D E |

ENERGY-ENVIRONMENT OPINIONNAIRE

INFORMATION ON RESPONDENT

Please fill in or check the appropriate blank.

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME (optional) \_\_\_\_\_ URBAN \_\_\_\_\_ RURAL \_\_\_\_\_

ORGANIZATION \_\_\_\_\_ SEX: \_\_\_\_\_ M \_\_\_\_\_ F \_\_\_\_\_

AGE: \_\_\_\_\_ Under 30

\_\_\_\_\_ 30-39

\_\_\_\_\_ 40-59

\_\_\_\_\_ 60 and over

RACE: \_\_\_\_\_ White

\_\_\_\_\_ Black

\_\_\_\_\_ Other

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_ Student

\_\_\_\_\_ Teacher

\_\_\_\_\_ Other (explain) \_\_\_\_\_

HIGHEST GRADE LEVEL COMPLETED IN SCHOOL/COLLEGE: \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 10

\_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_ 17 and above

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by

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